

Thank you for trusting us with your information. We recognise the importance of protecting your privacy, and being clear about how we collect, use, exchange, store and protect your information is a vital part of our relationship with you.

## 1. Your privacy is important to us

This Policy outlines how Australian Business Credit Pty Ltd (as applicable) (collectively, “**Australian Business Credit**”) and their related companies, Trail Book Loans, Rent Roll Loans and Commission Loans (“**we / us / the Group**”) collect, disclose, use, store or otherwise handle personal information.

It is important to us that we manage your personal information securely and consistently with relevant legislation, including:

- If you are in Australia, the Privacy Act 1988 (Cth); and

“**Privacy Act**”, and the Credit Reporting Privacy Code (as applicable to your jurisdiction) as amended or replaced from time to time (“**Privacy Laws**”).

This Policy explains:

- The kinds of personal information (including credit-related information) we collect;
- The purposes for which we collect this information;
- How we manage the personal information that we collect about you;
- How you can seek access to and correct that information; and
- If necessary, how you can make a complaint relating to our handling of that information.

This policy does not limit our rights and obligations under Privacy Laws.

This policy is not limited to current customers or guarantors of customers (where applicable) – it relates to all other individuals who deal with us, whether in relation to the provision of credit or otherwise. By using our services or otherwise dealing with us, you are deemed to agree to our Privacy Policy.

## 2. Information we collect from you

### 2.1 When we collect Personal information

We collect information about you and your interactions with us, for example, when you request or use our products or services, make a card payment or transfer money, phone us or visit any of our websites. When you use our website or mobile applications, we may collect information about your location or activity including your IP address, telephone number and whether you’ve accessed third-party sites. Some of this website information we collect using cookies.

This may include information collected directly from you and information that you authorise us to collect from third parties.

It is not mandatory for you to provide us with the personal information that we request – however if you do not do so it may affect the products and services that we can provide to you.

### 2.2 The Personal Information we collect

We will collect certain personal information about you depending on the circumstances in which the product or service is being provided.

This information can include:

- Key personal information such as your name, residential and business addresses, telephone numbers, email and other electronic addresses;
- Financial and related information, such as your occupation, accounts, bank account information (from prior to the loan being granted and ongoing for the term of the loan), assets, expenses, income, revenue, dependents, and regarding your employment, financial and business dealings and other relevant events;
- Your transaction history (with us and our associates or relevant third parties). This information includes products you may have used with us in the past, your payment history, and the capacity in which you have dealt or deal with us; and
- Other relevant information – depending on the circumstances this may also include your gender, marital status and health and medical information, membership of professional bodies, tax file number information and other government identifiers (e.g. if relevant for insurance purposes or to identifying you).

### **2.3 Information we collect from others**

We collect information about you from others such as service providers, agents, your bank, advisers, brokers, employers or family members. For example, if you apply for credit, we may need to obtain a credit report from a credit reporting body. We will also obtain bank account information from your bank throughout the term of the loan. We may collect information about you that is publicly available, for example, from public registers or social media, or made available by third parties.

If you elect to use bank statements and third party account aggregation service providers in connection with our assessment of your application, you permit such third party services to access your banking transaction data linked to the online banking credentials you provide. The third-party service provider will access your personal information for the purpose of providing this personal and business bank account data to us.

The third-party service provider may access transactional data from any account that is associated with the login credentials that you submit. This may include personal accounts as well as business accounts. Your provision of banking login credentials to utilise such third-party service providers does not provide us with your login credentials or passwords or the ability to access your internet banking (other than as stated above).

Through the use of such third party service providers, we will obtain the last six months bank transactions on the date you apply for a loan, in addition to further ongoing bank transactions for the term of the loan, for the purpose of assessing any future loan application. We note that your bank's terms may prohibit you from sharing your login, so you agree to appoint our third party service provider as your agent to access your internet banking on your behalf solely for this purpose and you consent to our ongoing access to this information for the term of the loan and the purposes outlined above.

Should you agree to the use of such a third-party service provider, you will be subject to their terms and conditions and privacy policy which will govern any act or omission of that third-party service provider in connection with your use of that service.

## **2.4 Sensitive information**

The Privacy Laws protect your sensitive information, such as health information that's collected on insurance or hardship applications. If we need to obtain this type of information, we will ask for your consent, except where otherwise permitted by law.

## **2.5 Information about other people**

If you provide any personal information to us about another person, you confirm that you have the authority of that person to share their information with us and to permit us to hold, use and disclose their information in accordance with this Privacy Policy. You must inform them of their rights to access and request correction of their information set out below.

## **3. How do we use your information?**

In many circumstances, we will collect the above information primarily from you (or from someone who is representing or assisting you). However, there are certain instances in which we will collect information about you from third parties where it is unreasonable or impracticable to collect it directly from you. For example, even where your application is for credit, we may collect information about you from a business which provides information about commercial credit worthiness for the purpose of assessing your application.

We use your information to:

- Establish your identity and assess applications for products and services;
- Price and design our products and services;
- Administer our products and services and generally carry out our business functions and activities;
- Manage our relationship with you, including fulfilling our obligations and exercising our rights under any agreement with you;
- Conduct and improve our businesses and improve our customers' experience;
- Manage our risks and help identify and investigate illegal activity, such as fraud;
- Contact you, for example if we suspect fraud on your account or need to tell you something important;
- Comply with our legal obligations and assist government and law enforcement agencies or regulators; and
- Identify and tell you about products or services offered by us, any of our Group members or any third parties that we think may be of interest to you (refer to section 3.1 below).

We may also collect, use and exchange your information in other ways where you have authorised us to do so or where permitted by law.

### **3.1 Direct marketing**

We may use your information for direct marketing, including by email or other electronic means. If you no longer want to receive direct marketing, you can tell us by using any of the methods set out in section 9.

### **3.2 Gathering and combining data to get insights**

Improvements in technology enable organisations to collect and use information to get a more integrated view of customers and provide better products and services. We may combine our customer information with information available from a wide variety of external sources (for example census or Bureau of Statistics data). We are able to analyse the data in order to gain useful insights which can be used for any of the purposes mentioned earlier in this policy. In addition, Group members may provide data insights or related reports to others, for example, to help them understand their customers better. These insights and reports are based on aggregated information and do not contain any information that identifies you.

## **4. Who do we exchange your information with?**

We exchange your information with other members of the Group, so that the Group may adopt an integrated approach to its customers. Group members may use this information for any of the purposes mentioned in this section.

### **4.1 Third parties**

We may exchange your information with third parties where this is permitted or required by law, or for any of the purposes mentioned in section 3.

Third parties include:

- Your co-applicant(s) (if any);
- Group members based in Australia, New Zealand or overseas;
- Entities that provide services to us such as, identity verification, mailing houses or call centre operators;
- Service providers, for example law firms, market research / data providers, and loyalty program redemption partners;
- Service providers to whom we outsource certain functions, for example, direct marketing, statement production, debt recovery and information technology support;
- Brokers, agents and advisers and persons acting on your behalf, for example guardians or persons holding power of attorney;
- References that you provide to us, for example landlord details or trade references;
- The supplier of any goods or services financed with credit we provide;
- Guarantors or any person providing security for any service;
- Persons involved in arrangements that provide funding to us, including persons who may acquire rights to our assets (for example loans), investors, advisers, trustees and rating agencies;
- Claims-related providers, such as assessors and investigators, who help us with claims;
- Other financial institutions such as banks and credit providers;
- Auditors, insurers and re-insurers;

- Employers or former employers;
- Government and law enforcement agencies or regulators;
- Credit reporting bodies – credit reporting bodies may collect the information we provide to them (including default information) and use it to provide their credit reporting services (see section 5 below);
- Entities established to help identify illegal activities and prevent fraud
- Overseas entities that provide products and services to us; and
- Any other parties that you authorise or that we are required or permitted by law to share information with.

#### **4.2 Sending information overseas**

Generally, we use customer service teams located within Australia or New Zealand. However, we may send your information overseas, including to overseas Group members and to service providers or other third parties who operate or hold data outside Australia and New Zealand. Where we do this, we take reasonable steps to ensure that appropriate data handling and security arrangements are in place. Please note that Australian law or New Zealand law (as applicable) may not apply to some of these entities.

We may also send information overseas to complete a particular transaction or where this is required by laws and regulations of Australia or New Zealand (as applicable) or another country.

Where we send your information overseas, it is likely to be one of the following countries:

- Canada;
- European Union
- United Kingdom; and/or
- United States.

Where we send your information to overseas Group members or service providers, we take reasonable steps to ensure that appropriate data handling and security arrangements are in place.

## **5. Credit checks and credit reporting**

When you apply to us for credit or propose to be a guarantor, we need to know if you're able to meet repayments under your agreement with us. We also want to avoid giving you further credit if this would put you in financial difficulty. One of our checks involves obtaining a credit report about you.

### **5.1 Credit reports**

A credit report contains information about your credit history that helps credit providers assess your credit applications, verify your identity and manage accounts you hold with them. Credit reporting bodies collect and exchange this information with credit providers like us and other service providers such as phone companies.

The Privacy Act and Credit Reporting Privacy Code limit the information that credit providers can disclose about you to credit reporting bodies, as well as the ways in which credit providers can use credit reports.

## **5.2 What information can we exchange with credit reporting bodies?**

If you are in Australia, the information we can exchange includes:

- your identification details;
- the type of loans you have;
- how much you've borrowed;
- whether or not you've met your loan repayment obligations; and
- if you have committed a serious credit infringement (such as fraud).

We also ask the credit reporting body to provide us with an overall assessment score of your creditworthiness.

If you are in New Zealand, we may exchange credit information with credit reporters and we also ask the credit reporters to provide us with an overall assessment score of your creditworthiness.

The credit reporting bodies we use will hold your personal information on their terms and treat your information in accordance with their own privacy policies.

## **5.3 What do we do with credit-related information?**

We use information from credit reporting bodies to confirm your identity, assess applications for credit, manage our relationship with you and collect overdue payments. We also use this information as part of arriving at our own internal assessment of your creditworthiness.

We store credit-related information with your other information. You can access credit-related information we hold about you, request us to correct the information and make a complaint to us about your credit-related information. See sections 8 and 9.

## **5.4 Other rights you have**

Credit providers may ask credit-reporting bodies to use their credit-related information to pre-screen you for direct marketing. You can ask a credit reporting body not to do this. Also, if you've been, or have reason to believe that you're likely to become, a victim of fraud (including identity fraud), you can ask the credit reporting body not to use or disclose the credit-related information it holds about you.

## **6. Keeping your information secure**

We store your hard-copy or electronic records on our premises and systems or offsite using trusted third parties. We use reasonable endeavours to keep your personal information secure, however, this security cannot be guaranteed.

Our security safeguards include:

### **6.1 Staff education**

We train and remind our staff of their obligations with regard to your information.

## **6.2 Taking precautions with overseas transfers and third parties**

When we send information overseas or use third parties that handle or store data, we take reasonable steps to ensure that appropriate data handling and security arrangements are in place.

## **6.3 System security**

When you transact with us on the internet via our website or mobile apps we encrypt data sent from your computer to our systems. We have firewalls, intrusion detection systems and virus scanning tools to help to protect against unauthorised persons and viruses accessing our systems. When we send your electronic data outside the Group, we use dedicated secure networks or encryption. We limit access by requiring use of passwords and/or smartcards.

## **6.4 Building security**

We have protection in our buildings against unauthorised access such as alarms, cameras and guards (as required).

## **6.5 Destroying data when no longer required**

We keep information only for as long as required (for example, to meet legal requirements or our internal needs).

## **6.6 Your log-in details**

You are advised to keep your log-in details private and confidential. Your log-in details are your responsibility and we advise you not to share those details with any party. You hereby acknowledge that any party that accesses your account does so as your agent and accordingly you agree to be bound by any transactions effected through their use of your account. We are entitled to rely on any access to or use of your account without making any further enquiries.

## **7. Accessing, updating and correcting your information**

### **7.1 Can I get access to my information?**

You can ask for access to your basic information (for example what transactions you've made) by going online or calling us. To obtain a copy of current credit-related information we hold about you, you can call or email us.

### **7.2 Is there a fee?**

There is no fee for making the initial request. However, in some cases, where permitted by law, there may be an access charge to cover the time we spend locating, compiling and explaining the information you ask for. If there is an access charge, we'll give you an estimate up front and confirm that you'd like us to proceed. Generally, the access charge is based on an hourly rate plus any photocopying costs or other out-of-pocket expenses. You'll need to make the payment before we start, unless you've authorised us to debit your account.

### **7.3 How long does it take to gain access to my information?**

We try to make your information available within 30 days of your request and we will respond to your request within 20 days. Before we give you the information, we'll need to confirm your identity.

### **7.4 Can you deny or limit my request for access?**

In certain circumstances we're allowed to deny your request or limit the access we provide. For example, we might not provide you access to commercially sensitive information. Whatever the outcome, we'll write to you explaining our decision.

### **7.5 Updating your basic information**

It's important that we have your correct details, such as your current address and telephone number. You can check or update your information by going online, emailing or phoning us.

### **7.6 Can I correct my information?**

You can ask us to correct any inaccurate information we hold or have provided to others (including credit-related information) by contacting us. If the information that is corrected is information we have provided to others, you can ask us to notify them of the correction. We don't charge a fee for these requests.

If your request relates to credit-related information provided by others, we may need to consult with credit reporting bodies or other credit providers. We'll try to correct information within 30 days. If we can't complete the request within 30 days, we'll let you know the reason for the delay within 20 days and try to agree a timeframe with you to extend the period.

If we're able to correct your information, we'll inform you when the process is complete.

### **7.7 What if we disagree that the information should be corrected?**

If we disagree with you that information should be corrected, we'll let you know in writing our reasons. You can ask us to include a statement with the relevant information, indicating your view that the information is inaccurate, misleading, incomplete, irrelevant or out-of-date. We will take reasonable steps to comply with such a request.

### **7.8 Can I ask you not to provide my information to my broker?**

If you were introduced or applied to us through a broker or other agent, we will provide them with information about each application you make with us and each loan which we provide to you. Your account will be linked to that broker and we will continue to provide them your information for each application you make with us whether that application is made through that broker or direct with us. If you do not wish us to provide your information to your broker or other agent, you must advise us by contacting [admin@abccredit.com.au](mailto:admin@abccredit.com.au).

## **8. Making a privacy complaint**

### **8.1 We're here to help**

If you have a concern about your privacy (including credit-related matters), you have a right to make a complaint and we'll do everything we can to put matters right.

### **8.2 How do I make a privacy complaint?**

To lodge a complaint, please get in touch with us using your point of contact or one of the customer service teams set out in section 9. We'll review your situation and try to resolve it straight away. If you've raised the matter through your point of contact or through our customer service teams and it hasn't been resolved to your satisfaction, please contact our Customer Relations team using the details in section 9.

### **8.3 How do we handle a privacy complaint?**

We acknowledge every complaint we receive and provide you with our name, a reference number and contact details of the investigating officer. We keep you updated on the progress we're making towards fixing the problem.

Usually, it takes only a few days to resolve a complaint. However, if we're unable to provide a final response within 45 days we'll contact you to explain why and discuss a timeframe to resolve the complaint.

### **8.4 External review of privacy complaints**

If you're not satisfied with our handling of your matter, you can refer your complaint to external dispute resolution. We suggest you do this only once you've first followed our internal complaint processes set out above.

If your complaint is about the way, we handle your personal information you may also contact:

The Office of the Australian Information Commissioner by calling them at 1300 363 992, online at [www.oaic.gov.au](http://www.oaic.gov.au) or writing to the Office of the Australian Information Commissioner ("OAIC"), GPO Box 5218 Sydney NSW 2001.

Australian Business Credit is a member of the Australia Financial Complaints Authority ("AFCA"). AFCA will consider privacy disputes if they're about the provision of credit, the collection of a debt, credit reporting or the banker-customer relationship, or if the privacy issue is part of a broader dispute with us.

## **9. How to contact us or find out more**

For privacy related queries, access or correction requests, or complaints, or to request a printed version of this policy, please contact us:

### **In Australia**

Phone 1300 222 733 or email [admin@abcredit.com.au](mailto:admin@abcredit.com.au). Our customer service representatives are available Monday to Friday. 9am – 5 pm AWST

See our [contact page](#) for more information.

We aim to resolve your query or complaint at your first point of contact with us. You can use your usual point of contact or call our customer service team.

### **9.1 To update your direct marketing preferences or request not to receive direct marketing**

You can call us using the number above or email us.

For more information about the Australian Privacy Principles and credit reporting rules visit:

- Office of the Australian Information Commissioner (privacy generally)
- Australian Retail Credit Association (credit reporting rules)

## **10. Amendments to this Privacy Policy**

We may change this Privacy Policy at any time by changing or removing existing terms or adding new ones. Changes may take the form of a completely new Privacy Policy. We will tell you about any

changes by posting an updated Privacy Policy on our website. Any change we make applies from the date we post it on the website. By continuing to use our services you will be deemed to agree to our updated Privacy Policy.